Mapping

National Geographic Database

SAMPLES

The OS MasterMap Topography layer is presented seamlessly with more than 500 Million real world objects – all uniquely identified - including roads, buildings, parks and waterways all managed and maintained by Ordnance Survey within one of the world's largest spatial databases.

How OS NGD data is structured

OS NGD data is different from our other products because it is accessed from one single source where you can find the data you need without having to download whole datasets. It also has a simpler data structure, designed to help answer questions, and develop more intelligent solutions, with quicker loading and implementation.

Geographic data of Great Britain is structured into nine themes. Each theme is made up of one or more collections, which in turn have feature types. And if you just need specific features within a collection, for example Organisation Name within Built Address, OS Select+Build and the OS NGD API - Features allow you to access only this data.

Theme

A theme is a macro grouping of features which all represent similar geographic entities. Themes are the highest level of grouping within the OS NGD, and examples include 'Buildings' and 'Transport'.

Themes allow for quick discovery and navigation when using OS Select+Build or the new OS NGD APIs. They also give you the ability to quickly access all OS data relating to your particular theme of interest.

The nine OS NGD themes are: Address, Administrative and Statistical Units, Buildings, Geographical Names, Land, Land Use, Structures, Transport, and Water.

Collection

A collection is a sub-grouping of the OS NGD themes. Collections group together similar types of data within a theme. Examples include ensuring network and routing data is separated from topographic features. For example, in the OS NGD Water Theme, there are two collections: OS NGD Water Features (topographic data) and OS NGD Water Network (network data).

This makes it easier for you to access only the data you require.

Feature type

A feature type is the most granular level of grouping within the OS NGD. Feature types have their own data model and specifications which are not commonly shared with other feature types. When you order data through OS Select+Build, the data you receive will be provided at a feature type level.